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rapid advancement, is really setting a pace for all the other colonies. The roads are well kept, the streets of Lome (the capital) are broad and no litter is permitted to accumulate on them, the natives are peaceful and intelligent and in their cleanliness and attire he thinks them far superior to the "free citizens" of Liberia.

In Kamerun the visitors saw little evidence of sickness among the whites, and were convinced that the peril of fever had been considerably exaggerated and also much reduced by intelligent hygienic methods. Buea, the capital of the colony, is high on the slope of Mt. Kamerun and is a healthful and a beautiful place. To reach it from the port of Victoria the visitors travelled for miles on the narrow gauge railroad that has been built by Mr. Esser through his cacao plantation, which is one of the largest planting enterprises in the tropics.

German East Africa only enhanced the excellent impression that the west coast colonies had made. In fact, Dr. Arendt believes that tropical east Africa offers more advantages for a high stage of development than the west coast. "I returned from German East Africa," he writes, "with the firm conviction that we possess there a German East Indies, and that if we do not make much of it the blame will rest not on the colony but on ourselves."

The present rate of progress in the European colonies of tropical Africa is no less remarkable than the wonderful era of discovery that made most of Africa known to us in a single generation. Such books as this are useful as marking the milestones along the way.

Le Siam et les Siamois. Par le Commandant Lunet de Lajonquière. Librairie Armand Colin, Paris, 1906. (Price, 3.50 fr.)

Siam is one of the oriental countries which are absorbing much of the science of the West. The author went there in charge of an archeological mission to the valleys of the Menam and the Mekong rivers. He improved the opportunity to study the Siamese and their country, and especially to note the extent to which Western influences are beginning to modify their lives and work. He gives a general view of the kingdom, its government, commerce, industries and resources, pictures the Siamese as they are at home, describes the activities of the foreigners among them, and shows the change that is coming over land and people—not rapidly, as in Japan, but gently, naturally, and surely towards closer affinity, in many respects, with Western development. He visited nearly all the provinces of the kingdom, and he takes his readers on a land route between Rangoon and Bangkok, now almost unknown, but which seems destined to have a large commercial future. The book is a valuable addition to the works on Asiatic countries which the firm of Armand Colin has published.

Kleine Sammlung wissenschaftlicher Wetterregeln. Von Dr. W. A. Michelson. v and 17 pp. Friedrich Vieweg und Sohn, Brunswick, 1906.

The author is Professor of Physics and Meteorology in the Agricultural High School of Moscow. His booklet, published in Russian in 1900, met with such favour that it has been translated into German. The little work is meant especially for farmers and others whose business is most affected by weather conditions. It presents the weather signs or indications that are approved by meteorologists in the form of 74 rules, simply expressed, the author believing that in this form the contents will be more helpful to the general public than if he should attempt a systematic development of a complex subject.